

IAC-D-124
17 July 1958
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INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*IAC-
D-124*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Reporting on Test ICBM and Space Vehicles

At the 15 July meeting Mr. Dulles referred briefly to the proposal which is outlined in the attached memorandum. We expect to place this matter on the agenda of the IAC meeting now scheduled for 22 July.

Secretary

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of the Director

MEMORANDUM FOR : Intelligence Advisory Committee
SUBJECT : Reporting on Test ICBM and Space Vehicles

1. As a result of the great interest and publicity on the Soviet test ICBM and satellite firings last fall, the intelligence community has attempted to provide information before launch of such research and development firings.



3. Of far greater importance to the intelligence community are the detailed studies of the Soviet guided missile and space programs. The emphasis on current reporting of the research and development test aspects has seriously retarded these analyses, particularly because of the burden placed on GMIC and NSA analysts. Relaxation of the present requirement that the probable imminence of a launching be reported immediately would not only permit a more definitive statement of the importance of each launching, but would permit a much better over-all evaluation of the programs.

4. Consequently, without change in the collection effort, the intelligence community should plan to ~~reduce~~ the emphasis on current reporting of the research and development activity at Tyura Tam. As a result, the intelligence community would not necessarily be advised beforehand that a Soviet launching was imminent; however, shortly afterwards some information would be available concerning any attempted launching or similar activities, which information would be appropriately reported. Of course, in some cases we might

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not know from COMINT until one to three days after launching the type of vehicle launched or the degree of its success or failure; from ELINT, however, we should know whether a firing had been generally successful, and possibly the type of vehicle launched, within an hour or two after the firing has occurred.

5. At the same time I wish to emphasize that the collection and analytical effort should be increased on the operational aspects of the ICBM, especially with respect to the vital requirement for developing operational missile warning information and determining launching sites.

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[REDACTED]
C. P. CABELL
General, USAF
Deputy Director

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